

**2009 Current Fiscal Year Report: United States Geological Survey
(USGS)--Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) Committee for
Synthesis and Assessment Product 4.2: Thresholds of Climate Change**

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1. Department or Agency		2. Fiscal Year	
Department of the Interior		2009	
3. Committee or Subcommittee		3b. GSA Committee No.	
United States Geological Survey (USGS)--Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) Committee for Synthesis and Assessment Product 4.2: Thresholds of Climate Change		31936	
4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	01/29/2008	01/29/2010	03/17/2009
8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date	
Yes	5 U.S.C. Appendix	03/25/2009	
9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?	
Terminate	No		
11. Establishment Authority		13.	14.
Agency Authority		Effective Date	Committee Type
12. Specific Establishment Authority		14c. Presidential?	
Pub. L. No. 101-606, Section 106, Global Change Research Act of 1990		01/23/2008	Continuing No
15. Description of Committee Other Committee			
16a. Total Number of Reports		1	
16b. Report Date	Report Title		
01/17/2009	SAP 4.2: Thresholds of Climate Change in Ecosystems		
Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1			
17a. Open	17b. Closed	17c. Partially Closed	Other Activities
0	0	0	0
17d. Total Meetings and Dates			
No Meetings			

Current FY Next FY

18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

A periodic synthesis and assessment of the cumulative knowledge associated with a scientific topic is a critical tool for research planning and policy formulation. The Climate Change Science Program (CCSP), a consortium of Federal agencies performing climate science, has established a synthesis and assessment (S&A) program as a part of its Strategic Plan. There are 21 S&A products to be administered by 13 Federal agencies over a 5-year period. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), a participant in the CCSP, is responsible for three S&A products. The S&A product 4.2: Thresholds of Climate Change is the subject of this proposed Federal Advisory Committee

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Suggested members were selected based on their expertise on the subject matter. Attention was given to providing a balanced membership by including Federal and non-Federal scientists who are considered experts in their respective fields. Other members will be considered as part of the upcoming prospectus public comment period.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

1 meeting per year.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The issue is complex and global in extent. A synthesis and assessment of this topic is too broad for the USGS to perform on its own. In order for the S&A process to be thorough, transparent, and open to the public, a new Federal Advisory Committee must be established that is tailored to meet these societal needs.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

n/a

21. Remarks

Committee has completed its task. Report completed Jan 2009.

Designated Federal Officer

Coleen W. Charles Asst. Program Coordinator Terrestrial, Freshwater, and Marine Ecosystems

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Charles, Colleen	01/29/2008	01/28/2010	DFO	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Joyce, Linda	01/29/2008	01/28/2010	Researcher, U.S. Forest Service	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
McNulty, Steven	01/29/2008	01/28/2010	Researcher, U.S. Forest Service	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Neilson, Ronald	01/29/2008	01/28/2010	Researcher, U.S. Forest Service	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Ojima, Dennis	01/29/2008	01/28/2010	Researcher, H. John Heinz III Center for Science, economics and the Environment	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Peterson, David	01/29/2008	01/28/2010	Researcher, U.S. Forest Service	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Schwing, Franklin	01/29/2008	01/28/2010	Researcher, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Smol, John	01/29/2008	01/28/2010	Professor, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Welling, Leigh	01/29/2008	01/28/2010	Researcher, National Park Service	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 9

Narrative Description

A periodic synthesis and assessment of the cumulative knowledge associated with a scientific topic is a critical tool for research planning and policy formulation. The Climate Change Science Program (CCSP), a consortium of Federal agencies performing climate science, has established program to develop synthesis and assessment products (SAP) as a part of its Strategic Plan. There are 21 SAPs to be administered by 13 Federal agencies over a 5-year period. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), a participant in the CCSP, is responsible for three SAPs. SAP 4.2: Thresholds of Climate Change is the subject of this proposed Federal Advisory Committee.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety

☐

Trust in government

☐

Major policy changes

☐

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Advance in scientific research | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Effective grant making | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Improved service delivery | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Increased customer satisfaction | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Unable to Determine | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Under \$100,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$100,000 - \$500,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$500,001 - \$1,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Over \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cost Savings Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

0

Number of Recommendations Comments

NA

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

NA

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

NA

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

NA

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

NA

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Publications



Other



Access Comments

Publication of the SAP 4.2 Thresholds of Climate Change in Jan 2009. Access to document on CCSP website.

<http://www.climatescience.gov/Library/sap/sap4-2/default.php>